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## **San José Wins Historic Preservation Design Awards**

*Two of California's 15 Annual Historic Preservation  
Design Awards located in San José*

San José – The City of San José has claimed two of the fifteen prestigious 2004 Preservation Design Awards from the California Preservation Foundation (CPF), honoring exceptional historic preservation projects at the statewide level for excellence in design, construction, planning and technology.

*Your Old House: Guide for Preserving San José Homes* won in the “Cultural Resource Reports, Studies, Videos & Computer Software” category, and the Twohy Building in Downtown San José won in the “Rehabilitation & Reuse Category.”

“These two awards taken together represent the true strength of our commitment to preserving our community’s past for our future generations,” said San José Mayor Ron Gonzales. “We now have a practical framework to help our residents to protect heritage buildings, and I’m delighted for the recognition for one more example of a successful restoration project in San José that sets the standard throughout California.”

**[more]**

*Your Old House* is a 125-page, in-depth guide that describes why and how to rehabilitate the City's older homes in a way that maintains the character of individual homes, as well as their neighborhoods. The Guidelines are the result of a significant community effort and the collaboration of several different City departments, including the Planning Department and San Jose Redevelopment Agency (SJRA).

Constructed in 1917, the City Landmark Twohy Building was designed by noted architect William Binder for Judge John W. Twohy as an office building. After purchasing it in 1985, the SJRA chose the CIM Group to purchase and rehabilitate the 5-story structure to accommodate 36 loft-style apartments and preserve the building's historic fabric, including its interior corridors, stairways and the look and feel of its historic office space. The \$12.2 million rehabilitation, funded by the SJRA and CIM, included extensive seismic retrofitting and preservation costs associated with changing from commercial to residential use. The historic Twohy provides a unique choice for much sought after housing and retail space in San José's downtown while reflecting the City's historic roots.

"The annual Design Awards program is our most important means of publicly recognizing outstanding work of California's historic preservation industry and also educating the public about the significant role that preservation projects perform in enhancing the quality of life in California communities," said Preservation Design Awards Chair Christopher Johnson.

The 2004 Preservation Design Awards Jury included Charles Edwin Chase, AIA, San Francisco Architectural Heritage; Tim Brandt, AIA, State of California Office of Historic Preservation; Anne Gailliot, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Cathy Garrett, PGA Design Landscape Architects; Mary Hardy, The Getty Institute; and, Robert Ooley, AIA, Santa Barbara County.

The awards were presented on Saturday, February 28, 2004 at the San Diego Aerospace Museum, in Balboa Park, San Diego.

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